Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 2, 5, 7-9, 11, 12, 14-16, 18, 21-24, 26-28, 30, 32, 33, 38, 49, 89, 90-94 and 97-103 are pending in the application, with claim 1 being the sole independent claims. Claims 3, 4, 10, 13, 17, 19, 20, 25, 29, 31, 33-37, 39-45, 47-88, 95, 96 and 99-103 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Claims 1, 2, 5, 7-9, 11, 12, 14-16, 18, 21-24, 26-28, 30, 32, 33, 38, 49, 89, 90-94, 97 and 98 are sought to be amended, without prejudice or disclaimer. These amendments are sought to place the claims in better conformity with U.S. practice and do not introduce new matter.

New claims 99-103 are sought to be added. New claims 99 and 100 are supported by original claim 89. New claim 101 is supported by original claim 90; new claim 102 is supported by original claim 92; and new claim 103 is supported by original claim 94. These new claims introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Applicants seek to amend the title and "Cross-Reference to Related Applications." Amendment of the "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" is sought to insert therein reference to the International Application, of which the present application is the U.S. National Phase. These amendments do not introduce new matter.

Finally, Applicants seek deletion of the existing sequence listing and substitution therefor with the substitute sequence listing in order to remove the assignee from the list of applicants/inventors and to ensure that the title and attorney docket number

- 15 -

Bachmann et al.

Appl. No. *To be assigned* (U.S. Nat'l Phase of PCT/EP2004/003164; Int'l Filing Date:

March 25, 2004)

correspond to that elsewhere in the application, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§

1.821-1.825. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.825 the paper and computer-readable

copies of the substitute sequence listing submitted herewith include no new matter and

are the same.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is

respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for

immediate examination. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal

communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to

telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Simon J. Elliott, Ph.D. Agent for Applicants Registration No. 54,083

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Date: Sept 23, 200

~

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20005-3934

(202) 371-2600

439672.1